10. Rs. 7,000 under "24—Public Health—charges for the prevention of Epidemics"

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* I move for an additional allotment of Rs. 7,000 under 24 Public Health—Charges for the prevention of Epidemics. As the House is aware, there has been an outbreak of plague and I am happy to say that this is now under control although it may be necessary to keep up these preventive measures for 3 or 4 months more. Of course there was some outbreak of small-pox especially in the Talappalli Taluk. We are taking necessary measures to counteract the disease and to afford necessary facilities to the poor people. For this purpose, I request the House to allow this grant.

മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. കെ. നായർ. സാധാരണയായി വസൂൽക്കാലങ്ങളിൽ എല്ലാ കൊല്ലവും സ്മാൾപോക്സ് ഉണ്ടാകുന്നുണ്ട്; എല്ലാ കൊല്ലവും ആയിരം പണവും ചിലവാക്കുന്നുണ്ട്. ഇത്രയൊക്കെയാണെങ്കിലും അതിനുള്ള നിവാരണം? അല്ലെങ്കിൽ എന്തെങ്കിലും ഒരു നിവാരണ മാർഗ്ഗം ഗവൺമെണ്ടു കണ്ടുപിടിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* I confess that vaccination has not been done as properly as it ought to be. Strict measures are proposed to be taken to see that this work is done more properly. I confess that this has not been satisfactorily done.

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur):* Even vaccinators are not appointed.

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* I confess that the work has not been done properly. 60 per cent of the cases enquired into were cases of primary vaccination. I want to rectify all these things.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* What is the number of deaths from plague during 1115?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* About 4 or 5. A number of rats died.

മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. കെ. നായർ: വാക്സിനേഷൻ ശരാശരിയായി ചെയ്യിക്കുക എന്നല്ലാതെ വേറെ വല്ല സ്കീമും ഇതിനു ഗവൺമെണ്ടു കണ്ടുപിടിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* I am preparing a scheme also. It is only symptomatic treatment.

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മിസ്റ്റർ സി. വി. ഇയ്യു: വസൂരി പിടിച്ചു കിടക്കുന്ന ആളുകളെ ഇംഗ്ലീഷു സമ്പ്രദായത്തിൽ ചികിൽസിക്കാമോ?

ഡാക്ടർ എ. ആർ. മേനോൻ: ചികിത്സിക്കാം.

മിസ്റ്റർ സി. വി. ഇയ്യു: വസൂരിപിടിച്ചു കിടക്കുന്ന ആളുകളെ നാട്ടുവൈദ്യ സമ്പ്രദായപ്രകാരം ചികിത്സിക്കുന്നതിനു ആയുർവ്വേദ ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെണ്ടിനെ ഏല്പിച്ചുകൂടേ?

ഡാക്ടർ എ. ആർ. മേനോൻ: ആയുർവ്വേദ ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെണ്ടിൽനിന്നു ഇപ്പോൾ പാമ്പു കടിച്ചവിഷം ഇറക്കുന്നുണ്ടു്. അതു തന്നെ ശരിയായിട്ടു ചെയ്യുന്നുണ്ടെന്നു പറയാൻ തരമില്ല. ചില വിഷം ഇറക്കും, ചില വിഷം ഇറങ്ങുകയില്ല. അതുപോലെയായിരിക്കും ഇതും കൂടി ഏല്പിച്ചു കൊടുത്താൽ.

Mr. T. V. Subramania Ayyar *(Nemmara):* It is claimed by Homeopathic doctors that they can cure this disease.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Has there been any recent outbreak of plague in Mattancheri; and if not why are these preventive measures taken?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* It is only in a general way. Occasionally we get rat falls. There were also human deaths. Immediately necessary preventive measures were taken and I am happy to announce that we have been successful beyond our expectations to get it under control.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Has there ever been more than one or two deaths from plague?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* Not that I know of.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* There is an outbreak of small-pox in Chalakkudi. I want the Government to do something at once, as the poor people there die of starvation.

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* That will receive my immediate attention.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* There is a contagious shed in Kunnamkulam but there is no kitchen or well. Provision has been made for this, but it has not been utilised till now. There were cases of small-pox patients admitted into the shed, and for want of a kitchen, it was found very difficult to feed them. They had to get their meals from hotels.

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* How many patients are there now?

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* I do not know.

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* I am told that for the last 5 years there never has been one admission,

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Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* This year there was. How can the patients be admitted? There is no kitchen. Money was allotted. But it has not been spent.

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* I am very anxious that money should not be wasted. I made enquiries and I find that not a single patient has been admitted for the last 4 or 5 years in these contagious sheds, excepting Trippunittura, where one was admitted and the fellow died. I may also say that Kunnamkulam will have a very good chance of improving these things in the very near future.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* During the last 3 months has there been any death from plague?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* I think there was one case.

Mr. Ismail Hajee Essa Sait *(Mattancheri):* Are you sure that the death was due to plague?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* I am not in a position to say that, but the report was that it was a positive case.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* From where was it exported?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* It is exported and imported from various parts. Sometimes it is imported from Alleppey to Mattancheri and from Mattancheri to Alleppey.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Has there been any complaint from the people of Mattancheri that there was the scare of plague?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* They have got used to these rat falls.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* A propaganda has been going on that there is plague in Mattancheri. But there has been only $1\frac{1}{2}$ deaths in a year. There has been no scare and we are told so.

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* The point is not whether the statement that there is plague is correct or not. We are expected to take preventive measures for 3 months whenever a rat fall is reported.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* We are not afraid of these plagues. My only point is that Government money has been wasted in this venture.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* May I know whether recently there has been an organised propaganda that there is plague in Mattancheri?

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Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* Government have no information.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* Are not the Government reading newspapers ?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* One cannot consider that all the statements published in newspapers are biblical truths.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* But they are attacking the Cochin Harbour and our income from the Harbour will be affected.

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* If the House wants I shall give a short account tomorrow what actually take place and how well we have taken all the necessary precautions.

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur):* Propaganda from one source or other has been going on against the Harbour saying that there is plague in Mattancheri. It is up to the Government to dispel any anxiety in the minds of the public.

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* I have published a short account in my own name of what we were doing in order to allay public scare. You will find that all the necessary informations have been given. I did not think it necessary to answer every attack. Therefore I do not pursue that line.

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur) :* Why not publish another statement?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* I will consider about it.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* May I know whether the Government is aware of the hardship caused to the merchants of the northern parts who take their goods from Mattancheri in valloms.

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* I do not think there is any trouble now. We have come to an agreement with the Travancore Government.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* If there is no plague elsewhere why should we waste money here in cynogassing goods coming from plague-infected areas.

Mr. President : There was rat fall in Mattancheri and hence the goods had to be cynogassed as a preventive measure. It is to prevent any export of plague bascellii from Mattancheri.

Mr. Ismail Hajee Essa Sait *(Mattancheri):* Are the Government collecting anything for cynogassing?

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Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* Yes. We collect 8 annas. Government thereby lose 4 annas, as the cost of medicine has increased. I am seriously thinking of increasing the rate.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Has cynogassing been resorted to elsewhere ?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* Yes.

Demand put and carried

11. Rs. 11,500 under "26-purchase of Stationery articles"

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar *(Secretary to Government):* I rise to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 11,500 under 26 purchase of stationery articles. It is to stock paper for one year in advance. There is the difficulty of getting paper in view of the war. We are trying to stock paper for one year and for this the amount is required.

Demand put and carried

12. Rs. 2,575 under "28-A-Civil Engineering. B.O."

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* I rise to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 2,575 under 28-A Civil Engineering. This represents the amount which had to be spent for certain repairs which were executed in the building which the Minister now occupies. The building was occupied by the Southern Division Assistant Engineer's Office and it had to be repaired to suit the Minister's convenience. I request that the House may be pleased to grant this amount.

Demand put and carried

13. Rs. 700 from "33-Rural Development Establishment to 4 Co-operative Societies Establishment, and Rs. 300 from 33-Rural Development fixed T. A. to 4 Co-operative Societies fixed T. A."

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* I rise to move for a transfer of Rs. 700 from 33 Rural Development Establishment to IV Co-operative Societies Establishment and of Rs. 300 from 33 Rural Development fixed T.A. to IV Co-operative Societies Fixed T.A. One of the officers of the Rural Development Department was transferred. His allowances and T.A. have to be paid. There

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